

make good use of better relations with the Vietnamese to help advance in that country a decent respect for the rights of man.

Finally, the people of Arizona expect me to act in the best interests of the Nation. We have looked back in anger at Vietnam for too long. I cannot allow whatever resentments I incurred during my time in Vietnam to hold me from doing what is so clearly my duty. I believe it is my duty to encourage this country to build from the losses and the hopes of our tragic war in Vietnam a better peace for both the American and the Vietnamese people. By his action today, the President has helped bring us closer to that worthy goal. I strongly commend him for having done so.●

THE HIGHWAY BILL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I want to take a few months to explain several of my votes concerning S. 440, the highway bill. I voted in favor of final passage of the bill because it would meet Federal transportation responsibilities while returning to the States much of their rightful authority to manage their own roadways.

Many of the amendments offered to the bill concerned the question of whether the States should be required to enact various highway safety laws. Although the debate on these amendments focused to a large extent on the wisdom of the safety laws at issue, my votes on the amendments turned more on the threshold question of whether the States should retain the power to decide for themselves whether to enact those laws. As a general matter, I think the Federal Government should decide only those issues that, by their very nature, demand a uniform resolution throughout the Nation. On issues like these, a resolution of the issue at the State level would itself be harmful, no matter how wisely the State legislatures exercise their power. National defense is one such example; the need for central direction and economies of scale preclude a satisfactory resolution of the issue at the State level. But our laws in other areas should in the main be left to the discretion of the States, so that they can be tailored to the respective circumstances and values prevalent in each State.

These principles led me to oppose the Reid amendment to set a national speed limit for trucks, the Lautenberg amendment to set a national speed limit for all motor vehicles, and the Dorgan amendment to prohibit open containers of alcohol in motor vehicles. They likewise explain my support for the Smith amendment to repeal Federal seatbelt and motorcycle helmet law mandates, and the Snowe amendment to repeal the Federal motorcycle-helmet law mandate. None of these issues demands a single resolution across the Nation. I further note that my home State of Michigan already has a seatbelt law, which only

underscores the fact that my votes on these amendments turned not on my views as to whether States should have seatbelt and helmet laws, but rather on my belief that States ought to be able to decide these issues for themselves.

Similarly, I opposed the Hutchinson amendment to retain the Federal motorcycle-helmet law mandate with respect to States that do not assume the cost of treating injuries attributable to a person's failure to wear a helmet while riding a motorcycle. This amendment was presented as an attempt to marry States' responsibility with States' rights. And it is true that the Federal Government assumes certain medical costs through its Medicaid and Medicare programs. But that does not mean the Federal Government should be able to mandate motorcycle-helmet laws. For if it did, the Federal Government could likewise mandate laws prohibiting other activities—say, smoking or mountain climbing—that involve an appreciable risk of physical harm. The Hutchinson amendment in fact would have been a Trojan Horse for increasing the power of the Federal Government at the expense of not only the prerogatives of the States, but also of the liberties of the people.

My support of the Byrd amendment to encourage a national blood-alcohol standard for minor drivers was bottomed on these same principles. No one argues that kids should be able to drink and drive. To the contrary, everyone agrees that teenage drinking and driving is a danger that must be addressed. When there is this kind of overwhelming national consensus with respect to an issue, the question of whether the issue should be decided at the State level in fact becomes merely theoretical. Under these circumstances, the existence of a Federal rule is not likely to frustrate the desire of a State to enact a contrary rule. Such is the case with teenage drinking and driving. In cases like these, the practical, administrative benefits of a uniform Federal rule outweigh theoretical concerns related to federalism.●

THE 125th ANNIVERSARY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COPYRIGHT SERVICE

● Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, as Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, it is my pleasure to acknowledge the 125th anniversary of the statute which centralized our Nation's copyright registration and deposit system in the Library. This law, signed by President Ulysses S. Grant on July 8, 1870, was the single most important factor in ensuring that Congress' library would eventually become the Nation's library and, in fact, the greatest repository of knowledge in the world.

Today, Dr. James Billington, our Librarian of Congress, will recognize the role of the copyright in building the Library's unsurpassed collection over the past 125 years in a program being held

in the Jefferson Building's Great Hall. I join with Dr. Billington in celebrating the anniversary of this important statute.

The act required both that all works be registered in the Library and that the Library be the repository of these copies. The Library could hold the copy of the work as a record of the copyright registration, but it also had the opportunity to make the work available as a resource for others. The joining of copyright and the Library was, and continues to be, a mutually beneficial arrangement. Then-Librarian of Congress Ainsworth Spofford believed that bringing copyright to the Library could help it become a great library, and he strongly urged passage of the 1870 legislation. However, I think even he could not have foreseen that the Library of Congress would become the great institution it is today.

It is hard to overemphasize the importance of copyright deposits to the collections of the Library and the resulting growth of the institution. Within a decade after the 1870 statute, the Library's collections tripled. When foreign works were granted U.S. copyright protection in 1891, many works from other countries were brought into the Library through copyright deposit.

Among the works the Library has received through copyright deposit are: the first edition of a Dvorak opera; an unpublished composition by the 14 year-old Aaron Copland; all the network news programs since the 1960's; rare performances by artists such as Martha Graham captured on videotape; and important Civil War and Spanish-American War photographs.

The importance of the copyright deposits to the Library continues today. Some of the Library's most heavily used collections, such as the local history and genealogy collection, would hardly exist were it not for copyright deposit. In fiscal year 1994, the value of works received through copyright deposit was estimated at more than \$15 million. The acquisition of these works could not have been accomplished through purchasing and gifts.

Mr. President, the Library of Congress provides valuable and unique services to the Congress and the Nation. Copyright continues to play an important role in the Library's work and I once again join in commemorating the 125th anniversary of the act which brought our national copyright system to the Library of Congress.●

RESTORING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I feel that it is important that the Members of this Chamber move history forward and support the President's decision to normalize diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

Over the last 17 months, the Vietnamese Government has helped to resolve many cases of Americans who